2-1850

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Intelligence Information Cable

ROUTINE

IN

STATE/INR DIA ARMY NAVY AIR JCS SECDEF NSA NIC AID USIA SDO [redacted]

[redacted]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

CITE TDCS-314/16344-66

[redacted] 22 23 12Z

DIST 22 DECEMBER 1966

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI EARLY NOVEMBER 1966

SUBJECT VIET CONG DETENTION OF 42 AMERICAN PRISONERS IN SOUTH VIETNAM-CAMBODIA BORDER AREA IN TAY NINH PROVINCE

S-145

ACQ VIETNAM, SAIGON (LATE NOVEMBER 1966)

SOURCE [redacted]

1. IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1966 THE VIET CONG (VC) WERE DETAINING 42 AMERICAN PRISONERS AT A CAMP IN THE VICINITY OF XT 025863 IN TAY NINH PROVINCE IN THE SA NGHE STREAM AREA ABOUT 500 METERS FROM THE CAMBODIAN BORDER, 4,500 METERS FROM NATIONAL ROUTE NO. 22, AND 8,500 METERS FROM PROVINCIAL ROUTE NO. 20. THE PRISON CAMP WAS UNDERGROUND AND WAS COMPOSED OF LABYRINTHINE AND COMPARTMENTED TUNNELS. DURING THE DAY THE AMERICANS WERE HANDCUFFED AND CONFINED UNDERGROUND, BUT WERE BROUGHT ABOVE GROUND FOR THEIR MEALS AND BATHS. AT NIGHT THE PRISONERS WERE DIVIDED INTO GROUPS OF 7 OR 8 AND SLEPT ON THE GROUND.

2. SINCE THE CAMP WAS CONSIDERED TO BE IN A SAFE AREA, THE PRISONERS WERE GUARDED BY ONLY ONE COMPANY OF VC. IF ALLIED OR REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

#207

[redacted] DIA #61 321

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
20 AUG 1979
Date .....

[redacted]

(classification) (dissem controls)

TROOPS SHOULD BEGIN OPERATIONS IN THE AREA, THE VC PLANNED TO MOVE THE CAMP. IF THERE WAS NO TIME TO MOVE, THE VC PLANNED TO KILL THE PRISONERS AND ATTRIBUTE THEIR DEATHS TO THE OPERATIONS BY GOVERNMENT TROOPS.

3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE USAID JUSPAO USMACV USARV NAVFORV 7TH AIR FORCE DISTRICT 50/OSI 525MIG CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT.

4. REFERENCE: REQUIREMENT D-1E6-14883.

NOTE: This was summarized by DIA/AP 2 (Capt's Harrington and Williams) for their Intsum 24 Dec (DIAIS 300-66) They added note "as of 10 Dec only 22 US personnel were listed as captured in SVN, but many more are carried as missing." (They got that info from casualty branches of each service -- no coordination with CIA or DIAAP 1).

I replied with info received from [redacted] along with this report on 28 Dec 1966

[redacted]

(classification) (dissem controls)